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WAX CYLINDER CONVERSION PROJECT UNDERWAY

Work will begin this summer on a project to preserve more than 3,500 wax cylinder recordings containing principally native American songs and stories recorded before 1930. The fragile wax cylinder recordings are in the collections of the Library of Congress, the Smithsonian Institution, and other Federal agencies. The project will be coordinated by the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress, with professional and financial assistance from the Smithsonian Institution and the Bureau of Indian Affairs of the U.S. Department of the Interior.

The preservation effort will consist of transferring the cylindrical recordings to magnetic tape, preparing accompanying written material, and finding suitable means of dissemination of these historic cultural documents.

The project was inaugurated by a working conference held at the Library of Congress on April 10. Participating in the conference were Bess Lomax Hawes and Daniel Sheehy of the Folk Arts Program, National Endowment for the Arts; Charlotte Heth of the American Indian Studies Center, University of California at Los Angeles; and Thomas Vennum of the Folklife Program, Smithsonian Institution. Attending from the Library of Congress were Alan Jabbour, Raye Virginia Allen, and Peter Bartis of the American Folklife Center, Joseph C. Hickerson and Gerald Parsons, Jr. of the Archive of Folk Song, and Robert Carneal of the Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division. They discussed overall project goals, duplication techniques, and project personnel. Periodic meetings of experts, professionals, and interested parties to evaluate progress and outline future activities are also planned.

The project is expected to continue for three years and will be

Mrs. Cameron Baird of Eden, N.Y., was honored at a reception given by the Music Division following the Juilliard Quartet concert on Thursday evening, April 12. Mrs. Baird owns a rare Stradivari viola, called the "Tuscan Viola," which she has loaned to the Library for use by Samuel Rhodes of the Juilliard Quartet. Mrs. Baird agreed to lend the instrument to the Library while its own Stradivarius viola, the "Cassavetti," is being repaired.

Mr. Rhodes first played the instrument at the Library's annual Stradivari Memorial concerts in December 1977. The April 12 concert was the occasion of Mrs. Baird's first visit to the Library in order to hear the instrument in concert. Mrs. Baird was married to the late Cameron Baird, a former advisor to the Coolidge Foundation in the Library and founder and former chairman of the Music Department at the University of Buffalo.

directed by Mr. Vennum, an ethnomusicologist with the Smithsonian. He is an authority on native American music and has worked extensively with the Library's cylinder recordings of Ojibwa songs collected by Frances Densmore in Minnesota and Wisconsin between 1907 and 1911. Duplication of the recordings will be carried out under the direction of Mr. Carneal, who is head of Laboratory Services, Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division, and an expert in the special technical problems of cylinder recordings. The Library of Congress maintains the largest existing wax cylinder collection of folk cultural materials and boasts excellent engineering facilities and archival expertise.

Corollary written material will be prepared with the aid of scholars, staff researchers, and local and tribal representatives, and is planned to include catalogs, bibliographies, discographies, monographs, and related publications. Upon completion of the project, the duplicate tapes and corresponding materials will be maintained in the collections of the Library of Congress and, in addition, copies will be made available to appropriate tribal archives and to educational institutions near reservations.

The American Folklife Center in the Library of Congress engages in the preservation, presentation, and dissemination of American folk cultural traditions. Established in 1976, the Center contributes to the cultural planning and programming of the Library, the Federal Government, and the nation.

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Comparable institutions and organizations in other countries may arrange to receive the *Bulletin* on an exchange basis by applying in writing to the Library's Exchange and Gift Division. All other correspondence should be addressed to the LC *Information Bulletin*, Information Office, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540.

MUSIC DIVISION ANNOUNCES DA CAPO FUND EXPECTATIONS

The Library of Congress recently announced the creation of the Da Capo Fund in the Music Division. The new fund, launched through the generosity of an anonymous donor, was established to support publications, concerts, lectures, and other special

A delegation from the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences visited the Library on April 17. Associate Librarian for National Programs Carol A. Nemeyer (above left), who greeted the delegation, is pictured here receiving a gift of Chinese publications from Huan Xiang, vice president of the academy and chairman of the delegation; in the background is interpreter I-Chuan Chen, assistant director, delegations Department, National Council for U.S.-China Trade. Other members of the delegation, in the United States for a month-long visit to eight different cities, included Song Yiping, secretary general of the academy; Fei Xiaotong, professor at the Central Nationalities Institute and deputy director of the academy's Institute of Nationalities; Qian Zhongshu, former professor in the Foreign Languages Department, Qinghua University, and researcher in the Institute of Literature of the academy; Rui Mo, professor of law, Peking University, and deputy director of the academy's Institute of Law; Xue Baoding, former associate professor of the Chemical Engineering Department, Jiaotong University, and deputy director of the academy's Institute of Industrial Economics.

Also present were Li Xin, researcher and deputy director of the academy's Institute of Modern History; Zhao Fusan, deputy director of the academy's Institute of Information; and Liao Qiuzhong, associate researcher of the academy's Institute of Linguistics and translator for the delegation.

Later in the afternoon, the delegation was briefed on the work of the Congressional Research Service, where they talked with (right photograph, left to right) William H. Robinson, chief of the Education and Public Welfare Division; William W. Whitson, chief of the Foreign Affairs and National Defense Division; and CRS Director Gilbert Gude.

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projects based on Music Division collections.

Da Capo, a musical term meaning "repeat from the beginning," was chosen as the fund's name to indicate that it will be replenished by income from its publications and other projects and will receive donations from interested individuals as well.

The fund has contributed to recent projects such as the full-color facsimile edition of the Violin Concerto of Johannes Brahms, released by the Library in April. Donald L. Leavitt, chief of the Music Division, originated the idea for the fund as part of the division's efforts to make its extraordinary treasures more accessible to the public. Mr. Leavitt said recently that "the Music Division has been fortunate in the past in receiving large donations from several individuals. But we have never had a general fund which could both receive donations from many sources and be reimbursed by the income from its own publications. We hope the Da Capo Fund will be the beginning of a new effort to put our publications and special programs on a self-sustaining basis."

It is anticipated that the fund will enable the Library of publish a facsimile edition of the manuscript of J. S. Bach's Cantata No. 10 and printed program notes for the chamber music concerts. Gifts for the support of these and other activities may be made to the fund through the Music Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540. (202) 426-5502. Contributions are tax-deductible.

COMMITTEE TO NEGOTIATE OFF-AIR TAPING GUIDELINES

The formation of guidelines, which may help define fair use with regard to videotaping television programs off the air for educational purposes, is the task of a committee recently appointed by the Subcommittee on Courts, Civil Liberties, and the Administration of Justice of the House Committee on the Judiciary in consultation with the Copyright Office of the Library of Congress. The 19 people on the committee represent different groups, each with special interest in the content of such guidelines.

The first meeting of the negotiating committee was held April 27 in the Rayburn House Office Building. Representative Robert Kastenmeier, who chairs the House subcommittee, told the appointees he hoped they could agree to a set of principles by the end of this year.

The subcommittee and the Copyright Office sponsored an all-day Conference on Off-Air Taping for Educational Uses on March 2 in the Rayburn Building to address the subject. This meeting was the first major gathering of the interest groups to discuss off-the-air taping since the Copyright Office and the Ford Foundation sponsored a Conference on Video Recording for Educational Uses on July 19-22, 1977, in Airlie, Va.

Those appointed to the negotiating committee for off-air videotaping guidelines with the organizations they represent are Eugene Aleinikoff of the Agency for Instructional Television, Joe Bellon of the Columbia Broadcasting System, James Bouras of the Motion Picture Association of America, Eileen Cooke of the American Library Association, Bernard Frietag of the National Education Association, Howard Hitchens of the Association for Educational Communications and Technology, Irwin Karp of the Authors League of America, Gale Livengood of the Association of Media Producers, John McGuire of the Screen Actors Guild, Frank Norwood of the Joint Council on Educational Telecommunications, James Popham of the National Association of Broadcasters, Ernest Ricca of the Directors Guild of America, Carol Risher of the Association of American Publishers, Donna Sensa of the American Broadcasting Company, Eric Smith of the Public Broadcasting Service, Sheldon Steinbach of the American Council of Education, Gus Steinhilber of the Ad Hoc Committee on Copyright Law, Leonard Wasser of the Writers Guild of America, East, and Sanford Wolff of the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists.

Transcripts of the Conference on Off-Air Taping for Educational Uses will be available to persons writing the Copyright Office, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20449, or calling (703) 557-8700.

COPYRIGHT MEETINGS SCHEDULED

The **Copyright Society of the U.S.A.** will hold its third annual meeting on May 20-22 at Gurney's Inn in Montauk, N.Y. Jon Baumgarten, general counsel, Copyright Office, Library of Congress, and one of the trustees of the society, will participate in a workshop on problem areas under the 1976 Act. Registration is $30, and reservations should be mailed to Kate McKay, Copyright Society of the U.S.A., New York University Law Center, 40 Washington Square South, New York, N.Y. 10012.

The **Bureau of National Affairs (BNA) Educational Systems** will present a copyright law conference on June 11-12 at New York University Law School and on September 14-15 at Vanderbilt University Law School in Nashville, Tenn. The conference will be chaired by Professor Alan Latman, with a varying speaker list on each occasion. The registration fee for each conference is $275. Information on registration may be obtained by calling the BNA Copyright Law Secretary at (202) 452-4420.

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